



## Department of Homeland Security Daily Open Source Infrastructure Report for 1 April 2009

Current Nationwide  
Threat Level is



<http://www.dhs.gov/>

- ABC News reports that a man accused of killing eight people Sunday in a Carthage, North Carolina nursing home shooting spree is in police custody, facing first degree murder charges. (See item [23](#))
- According to the East Valley Tribune, eight students were treated for chemical burns after a 15-year-old boy blew up a plastic bottle filled with a cleaning chemical at a middle school in Queen Creek, Arizona. (See item [27](#))

### **DHS Daily Open Source Infrastructure Report Fast Jump**

Production Industries: [Energy; Chemical; Nuclear Reactors, Materials and Waste; Defense Industrial Base; Dams](#)

Service Industries: [Banking and Finance; Transportation; Postal and Shipping; Information Technology; Communications; Commercial Facilities](#)

Sustenance and Health: [Agriculture and Food; Water; Public Health and Healthcare](#)

Federal and State: [Government Facilities; Emergency Services; National Monuments and Icons](#)

## **Energy Sector**

Current Electricity Sector Threat Alert Levels: **Physical: ELEVATED, Cyber: ELEVATED**

Scale: LOW, GUARDED, ELEVATED, HIGH, SEVERE [Source: ISAC for the Electricity Sector (ES-ISAC) – <http://www.esisac.com>]

1. *March 31, Associated Press* – (Missouri) **Worker at NW Mo power plant under construction killed.** A worker has been killed in an accident at the Iatan 2 power plant under construction in northwest Missouri. Kansas City Power & Light said in a news release that an employee of Team Industrial Services, a subcontractor, died about 5:45 a.m. Tuesday inside a boiler at the Weston, Platte County site. No one else was injured. The company did not release the victim's name or any other details of the accident. The construction site was shut down while an investigation continues. Iatan 1, the operating power plant, was not involved in the accident.

Source:

<http://www.stltoday.com/stltoday/news/stories.nsf/missouristatenews/story/E262232D1>

2. *March 31, GateHouse News Service* – (Pennsylvania) **Wells found safe after gas drilling mishap.** After Pennsylvania State regulators determined that methane seeped into nine residential wells because of natural gas drilling in Dimock Township, a continuing investigation found that harmful chemicals associated with drilling have not impacted wells in the area. Chemicals used for hydraulic fracturing have not entered those wells or others in the community, said a spokesperson for the state Department of Environmental Protection (DEP). “We still have a methane problem...but we don’t have a frac problem,” he said on Friday. The state conducted multiple rounds of water sampling in the township, which all showed no signs of chemical contamination, he said. In February, the DEP notified Cabot Oil & Gas Corporation, of Texas, that it violated clean water laws when methane leaked into the groundwater supply, after the company began drilling in the small, Susquehanna County community. DEP determined that Cabot’s gas drilling enterprise in the township caused underground methane to migrate to the surface, according to the violation notice obtained by the Wayne Independent. Four of the wells contained methane levels that could pose a threat of explosion. DEP has not determined, however, whether Cabot’s drilling activities created stray methane that caused a resident’s well to blow up. The state agency also ordered Cabot to install methane gas detectors in all nine residences. Cabot and DEP have been sweeping township homes with hand-held methane vapor detectors to make sure it is not accumulating and posing a threat, the DEP spokesman said. DEP will continue its investigation into the methane migration and other associated issues.

Source: <http://www.wayneindependent.com/news/x1525907633/Wells-found-safe-after-gas-drilling-mishap>

3. *March 31, Monroe News Star* – (Louisiana) **Storm damages substation; more than 3,000 lose power.** A passing thunderstorm left a swath of Monroe along Interstate 20 without power Tuesday morning. An Entergy spokesman said 3,000 to 4,000 customers were without power after the Canal Substation south of Interstate 20 by the Coca-Cola bottling plant suffered damage during the storm. “We think at this time that it was a lightning strike, but we don’t know enough yet,” he said. “Hopefully we can get everyone back on line in the next 30 minutes,” he said around 11:15 a.m. “We’re having to do some manual switching, but there are crews trying to isolate the damage and make repairs so they can energize other circuits.”

Source: <http://www.thenewsstar.com/article/20090331/UPDATES01/90331015>

[\[Return to top\]](#)

## **Chemical Industry Sector**

Nothing to report

[\[Return to top\]](#)

## **Nuclear Reactors, Materials, and Waste Sector**

4. *March 29, Canadian Press* – (International) **Radioactive devices continue to go astray: report.** Seventy-five radioactive devices used in Canadian medicine and industry went astray in recent years — almost one-third of them dangerous enough to cause people harm, newly released figures show. A Canadian Nuclear Safety Commission report says 24 radioactive items classified as “moderate-risk” or “high-risk” were lost or stolen from 2005 through the end of last year. Security officials have tried to improve tracking of such devices, used for everything from measuring soil moisture to irradiating blood, out of concern they could be used for malicious purposes including terrorist attacks. The report says many of the two dozen devices of greatest concern from the four-year period were lost in transit or happened to be in vehicles targeted by thieves. The fact licensees such as construction firms, laboratories, and medical outfits lose potentially hazardous items every year raises questions about whether enough is done to prevent the mishaps, environmental and security experts say. Source: <http://www.google.com/hostednews/canadianpress/article/ALeqM5gXktszmmXD1NbF8dmJbGAjuCKI9A>

[\[Return to top\]](#)

## **Defense Industrial Base Sector**

5. *March 30, Pacific Business News* – (Hawaii) **EPA orders Hawaii shipyard company to correct violations.** The U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) has ordered a Hawaii shipyard company to comply with Clean Water Act requirements. The EPA said on March 30 that Marisco Ltd. has been ordered to comply with the Act requirements at its ship repair and dry-dock facilities at Kalaeloa Barbers Point Harbor in Kapolei. The company failed to implement water pollution controls outlined in its discharge permit at its main ship repair facility and the Lil’ Perris dry-dock facility, both at Kalaeloa, the EPA said. “This company needs to promptly correct its violations and improve pollution controls at both the ship repair and dry-dock facilities,” said the water division director for the EPA’s Pacific Southwest region in a statement. “Ship repair facilities must have pollution controls in place to protect our coastal waters and coral reefs.” Source: <http://www.bizjournals.com/pacific/stories/2009/03/30/daily6.html>

[\[Return to top\]](#)

## **Banking and Finance Sector**

6. *March 30, IDG News Service* – (National) **U.S. convicts first foreigner of phishing.** A 23-year-old Romanian man has become the first foreigner to be convicted by a U.S. court for phishing. The man, of Craiova, Romania, was sentenced to four years and two months in prison on March 30 for his role in an international phishing operation. Prosecutors had charged him with setting up fake banking sites and then sending out tens of thousands of fraudulent spam messages in hopes of tricking victims into giving up their account information. The sentence was handed down by a Judge of the U.S. District Court in Connecticut. In this case, prosecutors said they found 2,600 credit and debit card numbers in e-mail accounts linked to the defendant, and that he had probably

harvested more information. He set up a fake phishing site to snare customers of People's Bank in October 2005, but also had tools that would have allowed him to phish customers of Wells Fargo, Suntrust, Amazon.com, PayPal, and eBay, according to court documents.

Source: <http://www.networkworld.com/news/2009/033009-us-convicts-first-foreigner-of.html>

7. *March 30, KFDM 6 Beaumont* – (Texas) **Mobiloil Federal Credit Union warns of scam.** Phishers have once again targeted thousands of Southeast Texans claiming to be from Mobiloil Federal Credit Union and asking for account information. Three times this past weekend an automated message reached the home of one resident. "Calling and saying they are with Mobiloil security and something about my card. I do not have a card," the resident said. Hundreds of people across the Golden Triangle received the same call. The resident says she did not fall for it. The CEO of Mobiloil Federal Credit Union says customers have been calling and coming in to let them know what happened. He says the credit union will never solicit personal information over the phone.  
Source: [http://www.kfdm.com/news/mobiloil\\_30892\\_article.html/news\\_federal.html](http://www.kfdm.com/news/mobiloil_30892_article.html/news_federal.html)
8. *March 30, Berkshire Eagle* – (Maine) **Phone scam phishes for bank account info.** A telephone scam asking members and nonmembers of Greylock Federal Credit Union for their account and debit card pin numbers resulted in between 75 to 100 calls to the police department this weekend. A police sergeant said local residents reported getting phone calls with a recorded message of a person claiming to be from Greylock Federal Credit Union. The message tells listeners that fraudulent activity has been detected on their Greylock Federal credit card, and it has temporarily been suspended, he said. He said the message continues to say that in order for people to reactivate their cards, they have to plug in their account and pin number using the phone key pad. "I just wish it would stop because our phones keep ringing," the sergeant said. He said the recorded message has targeted people with accounts through Greylock Federal as well as those who have no connection to the credit union, and police are advising people about what to do if they gave out their personal information. The senior vice president of marketing and administration for the Greylock Federal Credit Union said this weekend's scam is similar to one reported in the Berkshire Eagle on March 16, and it has hit other financial institutions in Berkshire County as well as across the country.  
Source: [http://www.berkshireeagle.com/ci\\_12028719?source=most\\_emailled](http://www.berkshireeagle.com/ci_12028719?source=most_emailled)
9. *March 30, Wall Street Journal* – (National) **FDIC starts to cut financing cord for banks.** If banks want to depend on the government to guarantee their debt, it will soon become a lot more expensive. Financial companies have flocked to the markets to sell bonds backed by the Federal Deposit Insurance Corp.'s Temporary Liquidity Guarantee Program. Big issuers have included General Electric's GE Capital, Goldman Sachs, Bank of America, and others. What is driving the rush to market? Partly, it is a little penny-pinching. The FDIC has imposed a new fee that would make such sales more expensive. Banks hurried to raise their money in March before the fee kicked in. The FDIC gets paid an underwriters' fee every time a bank or financial company issues debt through the TLGP. The underwriters' fee the FDIC has claimed has been larger than

most investment banks would charge. Until now, the FDIC has been paid a fee of 0.5 percent of the amount issued on each issuance maturing within six months, 0.75 percent on debt coming due within six months to a year, and 1 percent on bonds coming due within a year or more. One thing that had worried issuers was the number of bonds that were to come due when the FDIC guarantee was to run out in June 2012. The agency extended the program, to December 2012, but the extension comes at a price. The new FDIC fee will increase according to the maturity of the bonds. So, if a bank issues TLGP bonds now and the bonds mature after June 2012, the banks will pay an extra 0.25 percent on top of their existing fee payments to the FDIC.

Source: <http://blogs.wsj.com/deals/2009/03/30/fdic-starts-to-cut-financing-cord-for-banks/>

10. *March 29, WWLP 22 Chicopee* – (Massachusetts) **Credit card scam alert.** Residents of Chicopee got a mysterious phone call from an automated machine saying that their credit card would be at risk. One woman was prompted to input her credit card number. She said she tried fake numbers, and the machine knew they were fake. The automated service said it was part of the Polish National Credit Union. She says she is concerned because her mother almost fell for the scam. Experts say to always remember never to give out personal information on the phone or computer because a financial institution will never ask for it.

Source:

[http://www.wwlp.com/dpp/news/local/wwlp\\_local\\_crediti\\_card\\_scam\\_alert\\_20090329](http://www.wwlp.com/dpp/news/local/wwlp_local_crediti_card_scam_alert_20090329)

[\[Return to top\]](#)

## **Transportation Sector**

11. *March 31, Associated Press* – (North Dakota) **Grand Forks officials keep close watch on bridge.** Authorities in Grand Forks are keeping a close watch on their only remaining crossing over the Red River. A Minnesota Department of Transportation (MnDOT) crew used sonar on March 30 to check for any underwater erosion on the Kennedy Bridge, which connects Grand Forks with East Grand Forks across the river in Minnesota. A bridge engineer says the goal is to detect any structural problems early enough that repairs could be made before closing the bridge becomes necessary. MnDOT plans to continue monitoring the bridge until the river drops to 48 feet. On the evening of March 30, the river was up to nearly 49 feet and rising. Standing plans call for closing the bridge when the river reaches 54 feet. The Red River is projected to crest near 51 feet on April 3.

Source: <http://wcco.com/local/flooding.grand.forks.2.972060.html>

12. *March 30, Associated Press* – (New York) **Man charged with trying to exit delayed jet at JFK.** A Scottish air traveler got so fed up during a delay on the tarmac at John F. Kennedy International Airport that he tried to open a jet's door and get out, prosecutors said. The passenger was charged March 30 with reckless endangerment and criminal tampering for opening an emergency exit hatch as the plane waited out an hours-long delay due to bad weather, prosecutors said. Flight attendants stopped him from fully opening the door and activating the emergency chute. The incident happened the

evening of March 29 aboard a Delta Air Lines flight that had arrived at the Queens airport from Rome and was scheduled to go on to Las Vegas. Flight 149 pulled back from the gate just after 5 p.m. but was delayed on the taxiway for more than 2 1/2 hours due to bad weather and congested skies, common issues at JFK. Around 7:45 p.m., the passenger who was traveling with his wife lost his cool, prosecutors said. “Apparently, the defendant wanted to get off the plane,” the district attorney said, “so he opened the emergency exit door.” After flight attendants intervened, the jet returned to the gate. The flight, with 146 passengers aboard, was canceled. The passenger was arrested by airport police.

Source:

<http://www.google.com/hostednews/ap/article/ALeqM5hdWvGklcAIdCo7Z0H1LN07r5elvQD978MDT80>

13. *March 30, WTTG 5 Washington, D.C.* – (District of Columbia) **Metro inspections show more problems.** Metro transit authorities are promising a review of their rail inspection policies and procedure after visual and electronic tests failed to reveal cracks in a portion of the rail on the Red Line. The problem caused two trains to derail the afternoon of March 27 near the Bethesda Metro Station, causing major back-ups. No one was injured, but Metro officials are concerned about the systems aging parts. A spokesperson says Metro crews visually inspect its 106 miles of track twice weekly. Five times a year, a special ultrasound machine is brought in to ride the rails and test for problems. The machine checked for problems at the Bethesda station on March 15, and two visual tests were conducted. One was done just three days before the accident on March 27 and again the morning it happened. The derailment led officials to deploy the ultrasound machine to other Metro lines for a system-wide check. On March 30, it found problems on the Blue and Orange Lines between the Potomac Avenue and Federal Center stations. Metro officials say a piece of track at the Capitol South station showed signs of trouble. Crews temporarily fixed it, and will return overnight to do a more permanent job. They say plans are underway to purchase an ultrasound machine next year so tests can be conducted with more frequency.

Source:

[http://www.myfoxdc.com/dpp/news/033009\\_metro\\_inspections\\_show\\_more\\_problems](http://www.myfoxdc.com/dpp/news/033009_metro_inspections_show_more_problems)

14. *March 30, Associated Press* – (Wyoming) **Mass casualty exercise planned in Natrona County.** The Wyoming National Guard and emergency responders in Natrona County are planning a mass casualty exercise the weekend of April 4. The exercise will simulate an aircraft crash about 40 miles north of Casper. Natrona County officials plan to evaluate responders’ ability to rapidly triage and transport a large number of casualties to the Wyoming Medical Center and Mountain View Regional Hospital. Transportation will occur by ground and by air and involve the use of Black Hawk helicopters and a C-130 transport plane.

Source: <http://www.kulr8.com/news/wyoming/42123517.html>

[\[Return to top\]](#)

## **Postal and Shipping Sector**

15. *March 30, WSAZ 3 Charleston* – (West Virginia) **Senator receives suspicious letter.** A spokesperson for a U.S. Senator from West Virginia released the fact that his boss' office received a suspicious letter on March 30. It happened at the Senator's office on Capitol Street in downtown Charleston. Metro 911 dispatchers confirm an envelope with a white powdery substance brought investigators to the scene. According to a news release from the Senator's office, "The proper local and federal law enforcement authorities were contacted immediately, they investigated and the situation has been cleared." No other information is available about the investigation.  
Source: <http://www.wsaz.com/news/headlines/42144847.html>

[\[Return to top\]](#)

## **Agriculture and Food Sector**

16. *March 31, Reuters* – (California) **Pistachios recalled due to salmonella risk.** A California pistachio processor issued a nationwide voluntary recall on March 31 of pistachios due to potential salmonella contamination. The U.S. Food and Drug Administration (FDA) and the California Department of Public Health are investigating the matter. Thus far, several illnesses have been reported by consumers that may be associated with the pistachios, the FDA said. The recalled nuts were shipped on or after September 1, 2008 by Setton Pistachio of Terra Bella Inc. Because the pistachios were used as ingredients in a variety of foods, the FDA said the recall is likely to impact many products. It also said the investigation at Setton was ongoing and may lead to additional pistachio product recalls. Setton's current recall involves about 1 million pounds of pistachios, according to the FDA. Setton said the recall is not related to the recent recalls associated with peanuts or peanut butter.  
Source: <http://www.reuters.com/article/rbssFoodDistribution%20&%20Convenience%20Stores/idUSN3139386420090331>
17. *March 30, Agweek* – (National) **Major study of U.S. insecticide value released.** Total crop production in the United States would be reduced by about 144 billion pounds without effective insecticides, according to a study recently released by the Crop Protection Research Institute. The three-year study, "The Value of Insecticides in U.S. Crop Production," was reviewed and endorsed by 22 crop commodity organizations. "We wanted to know how many acres were treated with insecticides," said the director of Crop Protection Research Institute. "We estimate that 45 million acres, or 17 percent, of the acreage of the 50 major U.S. crops received annual insecticide treatment." The U.S. farmer today gets a \$19 return on every dollar spent on insecticides, according to the report. The returns are there, whether insecticides are being used on fruits, vegetables, or grains, the director said. Without insecticides, U.S. crop production would be much lower, the report states.  
Source: [http://www.agweek.com/articles/?id=3063&article\\_id=13921&property\\_id=41](http://www.agweek.com/articles/?id=3063&article_id=13921&property_id=41)
18. *March 30, Wichita Business Journal* – (National) **Cargill implements plant auditing system.** Cargill Beef has implemented a third-party video-auditing system that will operate 24 hours a day at its U.S. beef harvesting plants, the company announced

Monday. The goal, Cargill says, is to enhance the company's animal welfare protection systems. All of Cargill's U.S. plants are expected to have the program in place by the end of 2009. The program is designed to help plant operators teach and monitor performance in animal handling. It was designed by Arrowsight, a Web-based applications service provider that also will be managing the program. Cargill also has created a humane animal-handling training and certification program for employees. Cargill Beef is headquartered in Wichita and operates five processing plants across the United States and Canada.

Source: <http://www.bizjournals.com/wichita/stories/2009/03/30/daily1.html>

19. *March 30, NEWSInferno.com* – (Michigan) **Torres Hillsdale Country Cheese listeria recall expanded.** The recent recall by Torres Hillsdale Country Cheese of Reading, Michigan has been expanded. The recall, which was announced by the FDA, involves certain Asadero and Oaxaca soft Mexican-style cheeses due to potential [listeria](#) contamination. The original recall indicated that the Torres Hillsdale Country Cheese products were distributed in Illinois, Indiana, Michigan, Georgia, Tennessee, Kentucky, North Carolina, South Carolina, Ohio, and Wisconsin. The expanded recall now also includes possibly listeria-contaminated cheeses shipped to New Jersey, Pennsylvania, Florida, and Alabama, as well. A routine sample of Asadero cheese, taken by an inspector from the Michigan Department of Agriculture's Food and Dairy Division on February 23, 2009, was subsequently tested by the Michigan Department of Agriculture Laboratory and discovered to be contaminated with listeria monocytogenes. To date, no illnesses have been reported in connection with the recalled Torres Hillsdale Country Cheese products.

Source: <http://www.newsinferno.com/archives/5356>

20. *March 29, Charlotte Sun Herald* – (Florida) **Bomb threat at Winn-Dixie resolved; suspect arrested.** Authorities evacuated the Winn Dixie at the Promenades Mall in Port Charlotte on March 29 after a man threatened to blow up the grocery store unless he was given money. A man walked into the store at 12:42 p.m. with a plastic container, set it on the customer service counter, and demanded money or he would "blow the place up," according to the Charlotte County Sheriff's Office. When he was refused the money, the suspect left the object on the counter and ran out the door. The store remained closed for several hours while a bomb squad investigated the object. It was later determined that the object did not contain any explosives, according to a sheriff's spokesman. The store reopened around 6 p.m.

Source: <http://www.sunnewspapers.net/articles/llnews.aspx?articleID=12310&bnpg=0>

[\[Return to top\]](#)

## **Water Sector**

21. *March 30, Associated Press* – (Minnesota; North Dakota) **Fargo works to protect good water from the bad.** For the engineers of Fargo, North Dakota and Moorhead, Minnesota, there is bad water and good water. The bad water is rising from the swollen Red River. The good water is flowing through the cities' drinking water and sewage treatment plants, and officials say protecting the good water from the bad is their top

concern. “If we lose water and sewer, the city is uninhabitable,” said the Fargo City administrator. Fargo has two water plants, both near the Red River. One on the south side of town treats river water and sends it to the taps of about 125,000 people in the city and nearby rural areas. Another on the north side purifies sewer water from about the same number of people and pumps it back into the river; for now, that treated sewage is being stored in lagoons so it does not contribute to the river’s level. The plants are protected by the dikes that skirt the river banks, which are high enough to withstand an elevation of 43 feet. The second line of defense for both plants is their own, separate dikes that are built up to 44 feet. “The secondary protection is completely independent, and it isn’t even engaged unless the primary protection fails,” said the city’s manager of water, sewer, and solid waste utilities. By early March 29, the river had dropped below 40 feet. But officials were keeping a close eye on the main dikes near the plants and asking residents to conserve water use to avoid unnecessary strain on the city’s sewers and water pipes. In some parts of Moorhead, streets were flooding because river water was forcing its way from storm drains and up into the street.

Source:

[http://www.startribune.com/local/42116187.html?elr=KArks:DCiUHc3E7\\_V\\_nDaycUiD3aPc:Yyc:aUU](http://www.startribune.com/local/42116187.html?elr=KArks:DCiUHc3E7_V_nDaycUiD3aPc:Yyc:aUU)

22. *March 30, WKRG 5 Mobile* – (Alabama) **Several sewage spills in Baldwin County.** According to a report received March 30 by the Baldwin County Health Department from Riviera Utilities, a sewage spill occurred in the Foley area on East Berry Ave. The discharge occurred due to the failure of a fitting on a 10 inch sanitary sewer force main and resulted in an estimated 15,000 gallons of sewage being discharged into a ditch that empties into Wolf Creek. Also, a manhole and lift stations overflowed on March 28 and March 29 in Fairhope, Alabama. The overflows on March 28 resulted in sewage being discharged into Tatumville Gully (at 419 Valley St. — approximately 20,000-25,000 gallons) and No Name Gully (at 601 North Section St. — approximately 5000 gallons), which flow into Mobile Bay. The overflow on March 29 at 1 Woodland Dr. resulted in approximately 100 gallons of sewage being discharged into Fly Creek. And heavy rainfall has caused a manhole and the retention pond at the sewage treatment plant to overflow in Loxley, Alabama. The overflows resulted in sewage being discharged to ditches that feed into Corn Branch and Blackwater River. The health department urges residents to exercise caution when using these bodies of water for recreational purposes.

Source:

[http://www.wkrg.com/alabama/article/several\\_sewage\\_spills\\_in\\_baldwin\\_county/24951/](http://www.wkrg.com/alabama/article/several_sewage_spills_in_baldwin_county/24951/)

[\[Return to top\]](#)

## **Public Health and Healthcare Sector**

23. *March 30, ABC News* – (North Carolina) **Carnage in Carthage: Gunman kills 8 in nursing home.** North Carolina police are investigating whether the man accused of killing eight people in a Carthage, North Carolina nursing home shooting spree may have targeted the home because his estranged wife worked there, according to the Associated Press. The man is in police custody facing first degree murder charges. At 10

a.m. on March 29 the man entered the nursing home armed with multiple guns. Stalking from room to room, he shot several residents, even those bound to wheelchairs. By the time the only on-duty officer for the Carthage Police Department arrived at the Pine Lake Health and Rehab Center and put a stop to the massacre, seven nursing home patients and one nursing home employee had died.

Source: <http://abcnews.go.com/GMA/story?id=7205652&page=1>

24. *March 30, WTVY 4 Dothan* – (Alabama) **Local dialysis clinic closes doors after flooding.** A dialysis clinic in Dothan has closed its doors after flood waters rose to 4 feet inside the building. Hazardous materials have contaminated almost everything. Employees say their biggest concern goes to their patients who now have to travel as far as Florida and Georgia for treatment. “Many of these people are on dialysis 3 times a week so transportation is going to be a huge issue.” It is unclear at this time when the clinic will re-open.

Source: <http://www.wtvynews4.com/news/headlines/42156062.html>

25. *March 29, Baltimore Sun* – (Maryland) **Hunt Valley electrical fire leaves 4 injured.** Four people were injured, including one who suffered serious burns, in an electrical fire on March 28 at Pharmaceuticals International Inc. in Hunt Valley, Baltimore County, fire authorities said. A Baltimore County Fire Department official said four electricians were working inside a power room when an electrical short occurred. One suffered third-degree burns to the upper body. Two victims were burned on their hands and arms, and the fourth had burns on the arms and neck. All four were taken to the burn unit at Johns Hopkins Bayview Medical Center.

Source: [http://www.baltimoresun.com/news/local/baltimore\\_county/bal-md.co.fire29mar29,0,6172226.story](http://www.baltimoresun.com/news/local/baltimore_county/bal-md.co.fire29mar29,0,6172226.story)

[\[Return to top\]](#)

## **Government Facilities Sector**

26. *March 31, Fuel Cell Today* – (National) **U.S. Air Force releases details on its fuel cell powered blimp development plans.** The Pentagon said on March 26 that it intends to spend \$400 million to develop a giant dirigible that will float 65,000 feet above the Earth for 10 years, providing unblinking and intricate radar surveillance of the vehicles, planes, and even people below. “It is absolutely revolutionary,” said the chief scientist for the Air Force as he discussed the proposed unmanned airship — describing it as a cross between a satellite and a spy plane. The 450-foot-long craft would give the U.S. military a better understanding of an adversary’s movements, habits, and tactics, officials said. And the ability to constantly monitor small movements in a wide area would dramatically improve military intelligence. “It is constant surveillance, uninterrupted,” the Air Force scientist said. “When you only have a short-time view — whether it is a few hours or a few days — that is not enough to put the picture together.” The project reflects a shift in Pentagon planning and spending priorities under the Defense Secretary, who has urged the military services to improve intelligence and surveillance operations while cutting high-tech weaponry costs. If successful, the dirigible could pave the way for a fleet of spy airships, military officials said.

Source: <http://www.fuelcelltoday.com/online/news/articles/2009-03/US-to-Develop-Fuel-Cell-Blimp>

27. *March 30, East Valley Tribune* – (Arizona) **Q.C. schoolyard explosion injures 8 students.** Eight students were treated for chemical burns — and four of them were hospitalized — after a 15-year-old boy blew up a plastic bottle filled with a cleaning chemical at J.O. Combs Middle School in the Queen Creek area, sheriff's deputies said. Three of the four students who were transported to a nearby hospital were walking to class when the device exploded at 8:01 a.m. on the basketball court at the school. Authorities said the boy used either hydrogen chloride or hydrogen sulfide in a plastic bottle with aluminum foil, which exploded and burned the students' arms and legs, said the deputy chief for the Pinal County Sheriff's Office. The boy, who is a ninth-grader, was arrested on suspicion of eight counts of aggravated assault, one count each of disorderly conduct, disposal of an explosive, and disruption of an educational institution, according to a spokeswoman for the Pinal County Sheriff's Office. The boy, who was booked into the Pinal County Juvenile Detention Center for the offenses, told authorities he had been experimenting with manufacturing explosives, and previous burn marks on his arms indicated that he had.

Source: <http://www.eastvalleytribune.com/story/137313>

[\[Return to top\]](#)

## **Emergency Services Sector**

28. *March 30, Issaquah Press* – (Washington) **New 911 system shows a caller's location instantly.** The Issaquah, Washington Police Department installed Next Generation 911 equipment in its dispatch center on March 11. Officials said the new, faster system laid the foundation for future advances that could one day enable callers to reach dispatchers via text messages, and send digital images and streaming video and audio. But those capabilities are at least a few years distant. A computer imaging system allows dispatchers to pull up an image of the building where a call originates. The new system instantaneously loads an image of the caller's location, whereas the earlier program could take up to 30 seconds. Though the shift represents an improvement in 911 services, officials said other improvements will be necessary to keep the system up to date. For instance, callers who dial 911 from a mobile phone can be difficult to locate, and the system cannot yet handle text messages. Calls from VoIP services can be misrouted, because the address used to register the phone does not always correspond to the location of the caller.

Source: <http://www.issaquahpress.com/2009/03/30/new-911-system-shows-a-caller%E2%80%99s-location-instantly/>

[\[Return to top\]](#)

## **Information Technology**

29. *March 30, U.S. Department of Homeland Security* – (National) **DHS releases Conficker/Downadup computer worm detection tool.** The U.S. Department of

Homeland Security announced on March 30 the release of a DHS-developed detection tool that can be used by the Federal Government, commercial vendors, state and local governments, and critical infrastructure owners and operators to scan their networks for the Conficker/Downadup computer worm. The Department's United States Computer Emergency Readiness Team (US-CERT) developed the tool that assists mission-critical partners in detecting if their networks are infected. The tool has been made available to federal and state partners via the Government Forum of Incident Response and Security Teams (GFIRST) Portal, and to private sector partners through the IT and Communications sector Information Sharing and Analysis Centers (ISACs). Additional outreach to partners will continue in the coming days. Department cyber experts briefed federal chief information officers and chief information security officers on March 30, as well as their equivalents in the private sector and state/local government via the ISACs and the National Infrastructure Protection Plan framework. "While tools have existed for individual users, this is the only free tool — and the most comprehensive one — available for enterprises like federal and state government and private sector networks to determine the extent to which their systems are infected by this worm," said the US-CERT director. "Our experts at US-CERT are working around the clock to increase our capabilities to address the cyber risk to our nation's critical networks and systems, both from this threat and all others."

Source: [http://www.dhs.gov/ynews/releases/pr\\_1238443907751.shtm](http://www.dhs.gov/ynews/releases/pr_1238443907751.shtm)

30. *March 29, CNET News* – (International) **Conficker worm might originate in China.**

Microsoft is putting up a \$250,000 reward for any information leading to an arrest related to the Conficker worm case. Folks at BKIS, a Vietnamese security firm that makes the BKAIV antivirus software, announced on March 30 that they found clues that the virus may have originated in China. Previously, there were rumors that it might have been from Russia or Europe. The firm's conclusion is based on its analysis of the virus' coding. It found that Conficker's code is closely related to that of the notorious Nimda, a virus that wreaked havoc on the Net and e-mail in 2001. At that time, BKIS determined that Nimda was made in China, based on the firm's own data. It is important to note that the origin of Nimda was never verified. Though Nimda contained text indicating that it may have originated from China, that is in no way hard evidence. Even if this finding by BKIS is credible, it does little to help the authorities lay their hands on whoever is responsible for creating the virus. What it does is narrow in on where to block the return of the virus.

Source: [http://news.cnet.com/8301-1009\\_3-10206754-83.html](http://news.cnet.com/8301-1009_3-10206754-83.html)

### Internet Alert Dashboard

To report cyber infrastructure incidents or to request information, please contact US-CERT at [soc@us-cert.gov](mailto:soc@us-cert.gov) or visit their Website: <http://www.us-cert.gov>.

Information on IT information sharing and analysis can be found at the IT ISAC (Information Sharing and Analysis Center) Website: <https://www.it-isac.org/>.

[\[Return to top\]](#)

## Communications Sector

31. *March 31, Sat News Daily* – (National) **Global satellite launches small but intelligent Iridium.** Global Satellite USA launched its MCG-101, an intelligent Iridium PBX, which is a powerful and versatile Iridium communications system for offices, remote locations, military, aircraft, oil and gas, mining, and marine applications. The system has an intelligent solution for Iridium satellite phones to operate as a telephone, Internet gateway, GPS device, send/receive SMS, and attach to other devices through RS232 or CAN bus. The MCG-101 is daisy chainable so that it can connect with multiple simultaneous communications. Installing the unit only requires power, a SIM card, and an external antenna. The MCG-101 is portable, weighing just only 4lbs and measures 2 inches high by 8 inches wide by 8 inches deep.

Source: <http://www.satnews.com/cgi-bin/story.cgi?number=1924352827>

32. *March 31, WSBT 2 South Bend* – (Indiana) **Significant outage affects Comcast cable, phone customers.** Comcast communications customers in the Elkhart area of northern Indiana reported outages on March 31 that were affecting telephone, Internet, and cable TV service. There were no immediate reports on how many customers were affected. A Comcast service representative says the outage is “significant” and covers a large geographic area but had no other details. Comcast staff also had no information on when service might be restored to the area, citing computer systems that were down for maintenance as the reason no other details were available.

Source: <http://www.wsbt.com/news/local/42178232.html>

[\[Return to top\]](#)

## Commercial Facilities Sector

Nothing to report

[\[Return to top\]](#)

## National Monuments & Icons Sector

33. *March 30, Associated Press* – (Wyoming) **Prescribed burns planned in Shoshone Nat'l Forest.** Several prescribed burns are planned in western Wyoming's Shoshone National Forest this spring, weather permitting. A 700-acre prescribed burn is planned in the eastern Beartooths. One goal is to make it easier to protect private lands from spreading forest fires. About 1,000 acres on Carter Mountain will be burned to remove beetle-killed timber. About 700 acres of conifers and sagebrush will be burned in the Henry's Mill area to reduce fuels for wildfires. And a 600-acre burn is planned in the North Fork corridor to improve bighorn sheep habitat.

Source: [http://www.localnews8.com/Global/story.asp?S=10096792&nav=menu554\\_2\\_2](http://www.localnews8.com/Global/story.asp?S=10096792&nav=menu554_2_2)

34. *March 29, California Chronicle* – (California) **Forest Aid replants fire-ravaged San Bern. Nat'l Forest: 32,000 tree goal by May.** This March, the U.S. Forest Service launched Forest Aid, a partnership with the San Bernardino National Forest Association

and Los Angeles-based TreePeople to plant 32,000 seedlings and help restore the San Bernardino National Forest. This multi-year, volunteer-led effort will extend from March 7 to May 9 for the 2009 season. As of March 28, nearly 5,100 trees have been planted. Forest Aid was created in response to the 2007 and 2003 wildfires where 185,000 acres burned in the San Bernardino National Forest. According to the local Forest Service, (Forest Service Assessment 2008) 1.5 million new trees need to be planted promptly on 60,000 acres of land ravaged by the wildfires, especially in high need areas along Highway 18 between Crestline and Running Springs. This reforestation is important to water quality and to mitigate erosion and possible landslides that could impair mountain access.

Source: <http://www.californiachronicle.com/articles/view/96403>

[\[Return to top\]](#)

## **Dams Sector**

35. *March 30, Fort Mill Times* – (Minnesota; North Dakota) **Winter storm could make tougher to patrol dikes.** Officials in Moorhead, Minnesota are concerned that a winter storm moving in could make it harder to patrol the river side of dikes protecting the city. Permanent levees and temporary dikes have kept Moorhead and neighboring Fargo, North Dakota safe from catastrophic flooding. But a blizzard moving in from the west March 30 raised fears of wind-whipped waters pressuring the dikes. Moisture from the snow is not expected to raise the Red River immediately. But officials say it could increase the ice on floodwaters, making it tougher for prop-driven boats to patrol.

Source: <http://www.fortmilltimes.com/124/story/510719.html>

[\[Return to top\]](#)

## **DHS Daily Open Source Infrastructure Report Contact Information**

**DHS Daily Open Source Infrastructure Reports** – The DHS Daily Open Source Infrastructure Report is a daily [Monday through Friday] summary of open-source published information concerning significant critical infrastructure issues. The DHS Daily Open Source Infrastructure Report is archived for ten days on the Department of Homeland Security Website: <http://www.dhs.gov/iaipdailyreport>

## **DHS Daily Open Source Infrastructure Report Contact Information**

Content and Suggestions:	Send mail to <a href="mailto:NICCRReports@dhs.gov">NICCRReports@dhs.gov</a> or contact the DHS Daily Report Team at (202) 312-3421
Subscribe to the Distribution List:	Visit the <a href="#">DHS Daily Open Source Infrastructure Report</a> and follow instructions to <a href="#">Get e-mail updates when this information changes</a> .
Removal from Distribution List:	Send mail to <a href="mailto:support@govdelivery.com">support@govdelivery.com</a> .

---

### **Contact DHS**

To report physical infrastructure incidents or to request information, please contact the National Infrastructure Coordinating Center at [nicc@dhs.gov](mailto:nicc@dhs.gov) or (202) 282-9201.

To report cyber infrastructure incidents or to request information, please contact US-CERT at [soc@us-cert.gov](mailto:soc@us-cert.gov) or visit their Web page at [www.us-cert.gov](http://www.us-cert.gov).

### **Department of Homeland Security Disclaimer**

The DHS Daily Open Source Infrastructure Report is a non-commercial publication intended to educate and inform personnel engaged in infrastructure protection. Further reproduction or redistribution is subject to original copyright restrictions. DHS provides no warranty of ownership of the copyright, or accuracy with respect to the original source material.